



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
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San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, March 17, 2008

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THE SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY BEGINS AN EXCITING BOOK DISCUSSION SERIES ON NEO-SLAVE NARRATIVES

Copies of SOULCATCHER are currently available for the first meeting

SAN DIEGO – The San Diego Public Library will host a series of book discussions on neo-slave narratives, novels written by contemporary African American writers that revisit and revise the “slave narrative” genre and address authors’ concerns not only with history, but also with race and identity in the contemporary America. The discussion of Charles Johnson’s *Soulcatcher* will take place on April 2, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the Wangenheim Room, on the third floor of the Central Library, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego.

Soulcatcher is a collection of short stories reflecting on the African experience of slavery in America and slavery's profound impact on American life from the colonial period to Emancipation. The stories are based on Johnson’s research for the PBS series *Africans in America* and a companion to his non-fiction title of the same name. Charles Johnson also authored the prize-winning novel *Middle Passage*.

Camille F. Forbes, Ph.D., an author (*Introducing Bert Williams*, Basic Civitas Books, 2008), performer and professor in the Literature Department at the University of California, San Diego, will facilitate the discussions.

Discussion participants may borrow a copy of *Soulcatcher* (FIC/Johnson), as supplies allow, from the Central Library’s Literature and Languages section or reserve a copy online with their San Diego Public Library card and PIN.

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library’s Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library’s catalog online at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

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